

COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

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SECURITY INFORMATION
REPORT

TOPIC

General Military Information from Thuringia

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

13 May 1952

50X1-HUM

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

1. On 20 April 1952, the Mechterstedt railroad station east of Eisenach (L 51/H 74) was occupied by Soviet troops and materiel, including 300 to 350 men wearing black-bordered crimson capulets, billeting equipment and other items of equipment and 10 to 12 field kitchens.

At about 9:30 p.m., nine trucks towing AT guns moved from Eisenach to the Kindel troop training grounds northeast of Eisenach. (1)

2. On 18 April, the unit in the Flak Kaserne on Geusaerstrasse, Merseburg (M 52/D 91) moved out.

3. Prior to 19 April, the barracks installation on the west side of Leipzigerstrasse, Altenburg (M 51/K 27), was occupied to capacity. The unit there was loaded at the Altenburg railroad station on 20 and 21 April. The following shipments were observed.

20 April. First shipment of 20 artillery pieces of about 152-mm caliber, 20 prime movers, and 12 to 15 trucks

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all carrying billeting equipment and baggage. The loading detail wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Second shipment of 20 guns, 20 prime movers and 12 trucks

carrying boxes, billeting equipment and luggage. The two trains included no boxcars for troops and carried only two or three men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia on each flatcar. 50X1-HUM

21 April. A third shipment consisting of boxcars only was loaded in the morning with billeting equipment and ammunition boxes on three cars. The loading was guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia.

all three trains were bound for Ohrdruf (M 51/J 15). A last train was to be assembled and loaded on the afternoon of 21 April so that, according to sources, there were four shipments.

(3)

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4. On 18 April, some of the troops from the Reuss Kaserne on Franz-Eckstrasse were loaded at the Gera (M 51/K 06) main railroad station. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
10 caterpillar tractors, 9 of which towed canvas-covered guns with barrels about 1.5 meters long. 15 trucks [redacted] and troops with red-bordered black epaulets on 10 boxcars. The train pulled out toward Weimar (M 51/J 57) in the late afternoon. (4) 50X1-HUM

Comments.

- (2) Elements of the 38th (?) AT Artv Brig are carried in the Flak Kaserne, Morsburg. [redacted] components of that artillery unit had left at the beginning of April 1952. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
no changes between 10 and 18 April 1952. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
The present report tends to indicate that more artillery components have departed. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
- (3) [redacted] loading of the artillery unit from the Infanterie Kaserne on the east side of Leipzigerstrasse. [redacted] As the barracks installations are side by side and the identity of the artillery units there is undetermined, it cannot definitely be said which units from which barracks installation were loaded. From the presence of the prime movers on 20 April 1952, it is concluded that the 20 artillery pieces may have been 152-mm howitzers or 100-mm AT guns. Six of these AT guns [redacted] came from the Infanterie Kaserne west of Leipzigerstrasse and were also loaded with prime movers. [redacted] the two first shipments carried mostly vehicles of the 43d Gds Army Artv Brig. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] it is believed that the majority of the artillery brigade stationed in the Reuss Kaserne had been entrained between 15 and 18 April 1952 [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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